

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A semiconductor device ~~provided with a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in a driver transistor mounted on a semiconductor chip, the semiconductor device~~ comprising:

a semiconductor chip;

a driver transistor mounted on said semiconductor chip;

a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in said driver transistor; and

a plurality of transistors provided in the monitor transistor and connected in parallel;

wherein the plural transistors are disposed at a periphery of an area of the semiconductor chip on which the driver transistor is mounted; and

wherein the plural transistors are located relative to the semiconductor chip and the driver transistor such that changes in a property of the monitor transistor caused when force is applied to the semiconductor chip are balanced.

2. (Currently amended) A semiconductor device ~~provided with a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in a driver transistor mounted on a semiconductor chip, the semiconductor device~~ comprising:

a semiconductor chip;

a driver transistor mounted on said semiconductor chip;

a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in said driver transistor; and

a plurality of transistors provided in the monitor transistor and connected in parallel;

wherein the plural transistors are disposed within an area of the semiconductor chip on which the driver transistor is mounted; and

wherein the plural transistors are located relative to the semiconductor chip and the driver transistor such that changes in a property of the monitor transistor caused when force is applied to the semiconductor chip are balanced.

3. (Original) The semiconductor device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plural transistors are disposed on the semiconductor chip at equal intervals.

4. (Original) The semiconductor device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the driver transistor and the monitor transistor are MOS transistors.

5. (Currently amended) A voltage regulator ~~provided with a constant voltage circuit part including a driver transistor mounted on a semiconductor chip and an output current detection circuit part including a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in the driver transistor, the voltage regulator comprising:~~

a semiconductor chip;

a constant voltage part including a driver transistor mounted on said semiconductor chip;

an output current detection circuit part including a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in said driver transistor; and

a plurality of transistors provided in the monitor transistor and connected in parallel;
wherein the plural transistors are disposed at a periphery of an area of the semiconductor chip on which the driver transistor is mounted; and

wherein the plural transistors are located relative to the semiconductor chip and the driver transistor such that changes in a property of the monitor transistor caused when force is applied to the semiconductor chip are balanced.

6. (Currently amended) A voltage regulator ~~provided with a constant voltage circuit part including a driver transistor mounted on a semiconductor chip and an output current detection circuit part including a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in the driver transistor, the voltage regulator comprising:~~

a semiconductor chip;

a constant voltage part including a driver transistor mounted on said semiconductor chip;

an output current detection circuit part including a monitor transistor for detecting electric current flowing in said driver transistor; and

a plurality of transistors provided in the monitor transistor and connected in parallel;
wherein the plural transistors are disposed within an area of the semiconductor chip on
which the driver transistor is mounted; and

wherein the plural transistors are located relative to the semiconductor chip and the
driver transistor such that changes in a property of the monitor transistor caused when force is
applied to the semiconductor chip are balanced.

7. (Original) The voltage regulator as claimed in claim 5, wherein the plural transistors
are disposed on the semiconductor chip at equal intervals.

8. (Original) The voltage regulator as claimed in claim 5, wherein the output current
detection circuit part is configured to change the electric current flowing in the monitor transistor
into electric voltage and output the electric voltage.

9. (Original) The voltage regulator as claimed in claim 5, wherein the constant voltage
circuit part further includes a reference voltage generation circuit for generating and outputting a
reference voltage and an operational amplifier circuit including a differential pair for controlling the
operation of the driver transistor, wherein the output current detection circuit part is configured to
supply an electric current to the differential pair of the operational amplifier circuit, wherein the
electric current supplied to the differential pair is proportional to the electric current flowing in the
monitor transistor.

10. (Original) The voltage regulator as claimed in claim 5, wherein the driver transistor
and the monitor transistor are MOS transistors.

11. (Original) The voltage regulator as claimed in claim 5, wherein the constant voltage
circuit part and the output current detection circuit part are integrated on a single integrated circuit.